

Abstract of the Disclosure:

A sheathed element glow plug having an ionic current sensor and a method of operating such a sheathed element glow plug are described, the sheathed element glow plugs have a housing (3) and a rod-shaped heating element (5) situated in a concentric bore in the housing (3). The heating element (5) has at least one insulation layer (11), a first feeder layer (7), and a second feeder layer (9), the first feeder layer (7) and the second feeder layer (9) being connected by a web (8) on the combustion chamber-side end (6) of the heating element (5), the first and second feeder layers (7, 9) and the web (8) being made of an electrically conducting ceramic material, and the insulation layer (11) being made of an electrically insulating ceramic material. The heating element (5) has at least one ionic current detection electrode (7, 9, 33), the at least one ionic current detection electrode (7, 9, 33) being made of an electrically conducting ceramic material.

(Fig. 1)